

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, EAST BAY

OFFICE OF THE
ACADEMIC SENATE

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting, Tuesday, January 10, 2012

Chair Mahoney called the meeting to order at 2:06 p.m.

1. Approval of the agenda

M/S/P (Murphy/Baham) to approve the agenda

2. Approval of the minutes of November 15, 2011

M/S/P (Reevy/Seitz) to approve the minutes of November 15, 2011

3. Reports

A. Report of the Chair

The Chair introduced Sophie Rollins (replacing Jackie Alnor); Sophie was welcomed by all.

Mahoney announced that Susan Gubernat has resigned her position as Statewide Academic Senator and, as a result, will no longer be a member of ExCom. The Chair thanked Susan for her service.

Mahoney stated that the budget situation is getting worse due to the mid-year \$100M cut to the CSU (about \$3.5M to our campus); proposed funding amounts will likely be the same for 12-13. If the proposed November proposition does not pass, there probably will be an additional \$200M cut in store for the CSU (our campus portion will be approximately \$7M).

The Chair announced that candidates for the VP Administration and Finance position will be meeting with ExCom from 1-2 on 1/17-1/19. Mahoney is also serving on the Chief of Police Search Committee.

B. Report of the Provost

Provost Houpis also noted Gubernat's resignation and said her presence and dedication will be missed.

Houpis stated that, as expected, the budget situation triggered the additional \$100M mid-year cut. Since the Board of Trustees passed another student fee/tuition increase, there are enough funds to cover the cut and provide another \$30M in 2012-13. As of now, student fees account for at least 61% of the cost of student education. If the prop in November does not pass, and there is an additional \$7M cut to CSUEB, the Provost believes it will be impossible to deliver on our promise of a quality affordable education.

The Provost announced that candidates for Dean of CLASS will be on campus toward the end of January; the search should be completed by the first week of February.

Houpis announced that the AVP Research search has been delayed by a change of membership on the Search Committee. The Committee is expected to conduct phone interviews shortly. He added that it is essential that searches not drag on for extended periods, as this decreases the pool of top candidates.

The Provost announced that the University began collecting A2E2 fees effective this quarter (W12). He reminded all of the four areas where the revenue will be targeted: IRA, IRE, Course Fees, and High Impact Practices (see Academic Affairs website for more information).

The Provost stated that A2E2 fee will not be used to backfill cuts. He also reiterated his desire that pre-existing IRA funds be expended before spending new revenue. To that end, he expects the Colleges to submit proposal packages for use of IRE funds by the end of January. He anticipates about \$1M will be allocated to high impact programs. Although A2E2 committee members have been identified, the Committee has not met, so no policies and procedures are in place as yet. On a related note, we need to begin a discussion about academic prioritizations.

Raj Prasaad, former Director of Grants and Sponsored Projects, has left CSUEB to return to his former position at Children's Hospital. He will be missed.

Houpis announced that CSUEB was one of five organizations nationwide—and the only one west of the Mississippi—to be awarded a Promise Neighborhood Grant. With this and the NSF and Gateways grants, there is additional pressure to add staff to ORSP. The Provost stated that we will hire two support staff and expedite search to replace Raj; Dalton is preparing the job description. The budget analyst position has been open since October; this will be one of the new hires. Both will work on post grants. Houpis added that he has been meeting with Brad Wells to work on resolving problems related to grant administration and support. The Provost also expressed his appreciation for the hard work and grant-related productivity of faculty.

Suggestions were made to explore a mechanism to increase the base salary (i.e., beyond 125%) for faculty who bring in large amounts of funding. Houpis stated that the definition of what constitutes 125% differs, depending on whom one speaks with; this should be consistent. He added that there should be an incentive-based process accessible to those who work hard and bring in large grants.

C. Report of the Statewide Academic Senators

Senator Woods expressed her appreciation for Susan Gubernat's work on the Statewide Senate and at CSUEB, calling Gubernat accomplished, detail-oriented, an advocate for faculty, and a presence across the system. This is a great loss.

The next ASCSU meeting is in a week or so; Woods expects there may well be other resignations. The funding situation is dire; the ASCSU needs a 60% increase in funding, just to return to last year's funding level. To that end, the Chair of the State Senate has tried to meet with Trustees to try to get more funds. There is wide-spread concern that severe reduction in funding may be a strategic way to dismantle or impair faculty governance.

A suggestion to ask administration at campuses to help fund ASCSU was squelched and posed political problems. At present, the ASCSU is trying to decide how to continue funding governance efforts—via Skype or other media being possibilities. Volunteering to serve means doing so without

assigned time.

Woods reported on an ASCSU resolution by former Statewide chairs and former trustees Highsmith and Goldwight, asking the BOT to reinstate funding to a reasonable level. Nearly all Senate chairs have signed and the resolution has been sent to the Trustees.

The new system online initiative is viewed by some as another example of unshared governance. Woods stated that, in accordance with SB1440, 16 model transfer curricula have been approved and 16 more are in process. Woods will forward website information to the Senate Office.

The Chair added SB1440.org is a good place to start to learn about issues; it is sponsored by the community colleges and the CSU.

Mahoney stated that Brad Wells is working on a university directive website and will be at ExCom in the near future.

In response to a question regarding grant-receiving faculty (PIs) being “employees” of our campus research foundation and, thus, prohibited from serving on the foundation board, interim Associate Provost Dobb said that there has been a change. PIs are no longer considered foundation employees, and thus, should be eligible to serve on the foundation board.

4. Confirmation and approval of the Winter 2012 Election Schedule

M/S/P (Murphy/Fleming) to confirm approval

Mahoney reviewed the list of elections and openings.

5. Disposition of Senate display case from Warren Hall

Committee members discussed ideas about where to relocate the display case (award plaques) from the lobby of Warren Hall near the elevator. Fleming suggested that the purpose be part of the solution, i.e., do we want the case to be seen by faculty/staff only, or by the entire community including students.

6. Resolution Calling for Suspension of the CSU Online Initiative (Reevy)

M/S/P (Reevy/Woods) to place on the Senate agenda.

Reevy presented a resolution calling for a slowdown of the initiative. There was a great deal of discussion regarding the implications in the CBA of possibly creating an entire division that will not be subject to the CBA.

Some Committee members felt that portions of the resolution were vague and possibly premised on information that may not be as germane to the initiative as was thought (e.g., Katz report). Questions were raised about representation from governing bodies: technology steering committee (9 university presidents); there appears to have been little faculty consultation.

Concerns were raised about potential outsourcing of student support and assistance in course

development from the Western Governors University. Other concerns included Credit/No Credit modules, no CSU faculty delivering courses, lack of shared governance, no consultation with CFA, course caps not discussed, and faculty intellectual property rights.

Ruth Claire Black has been hired as the Executive Director of CSU online. Before she joined the CSU in December, she worked at the extension branch of Chapman University (known as Brandman University). Every campus put in \$50K towards the systemwide online effort.

Watnik suggested a resolution that stressed the positive, i.e., what East Bay does well and what we want, rather than what we don't want. Revvy said that she would help draft a revision to present at the upcoming Senate meeting.

7. Senate Agenda for January 17, 2012

The Chair reviewed the proposed agenda for the upcoming Senate meeting.

8. Lecturer service on standing committees (refer to FAC?)

M/S/P (Reevy/Seitz) to refer to FAC

Per Article XVI of the Constitution/Bylaws, lecturers are not allowed to serve on Senate standing committees (although they can and do serve on subcommittees of standing committees). The question posed is whether the Constitution/Bylaws should be changed so that lecturers may serve on Senate standing committees (e.g., CIC, FAC). This question arose during discussion of the FDEC proposal to become a standing committee of the Senate. There were questions about whether lecturers could choose to serve or would be mandated to serve, i.e., what implications might the change in status have on workload?

9. Adjournment

M/S/P (Fleming/Murphy) to adjourn at 4:03

Respectfully submitted,
Denise Fleming, Secretary